Dear Marco, 3/25/74

This humble flaunter of his own ignorance, aka Shoot First from the Hip, hastens to confess multiple indebtedness for the dissertion on when it is not a wok and what to do about and with it.

It is exactly the kind of beginning I needed for what will be a rough if not a drucial week, one that I begin with a healthy but unhelpful physical weariness from a bit too much of the Paul Bunyan.

Beautiful, welcome and helpful. Most of all because from your knowledge of the Chinese attitudes I will not now fear asking Mr. Miao's help.

My ignorance was a bit short of total. And if the gadget fails as a wok it will replace what needs replacing and Lil would not consider, her old electric skillet. Hers, says he, modestly, after having won it in cooking competition crica 1959. The second such won thusly. By him.

I've skimmed the rest of that mailing and look forward to the promise it holds.

On taxes, thanks for anything, no matter how seemingly remote. The design is a bit more Byzantine, with future prospect of filings against IRS for all the feasances, mis, mal and non.

But this wok I knew I'd enjoy and from it I knew I would- as I did- get a second wind.

Hopefully, with the end of the tax season and the end of our indebtedness to the bank (which is not the same as all indebtedness), Lil will perk up a bit and throw herself and her fantastic cooking imagination into Chinese cookery. We do get Chinese cabbage here, it is often excellent, and we also like it raw. I had earlier raised the question of getting around the residual heat of electricity with her, perhaps not satisfactorily, by suggesting that she could with another utensil use a small charcoal grill I once got her and only Cris(pina McDonald) has used.

About noontime two of the local students are due. Tomorrow I address them at the college. We are over-the-nose in Ray stuff. And I'm have to go to DC Thursday, hopefully followed soon by a trip to Miami and the possible funding of a local archive and other work. One of the students coming today will be taking a master's and I hope to be able to interest her in a selection of topics for her thesis.

So, it is a busy week, the return of winter outside warmed by your fine entertainment that is also informative. Lil will enjoy it when she gets home tonight, tired and facing a tiring night.

I am much encouraged by what you say of the quantities of what for us are the more expensive ingredients. It means the per-serving cost is low and that is what counts. We have only the freezing compartment of the refrigerator, but I do hoep to get a small upright freezer. Lil wants one but not a chest type. I'm also hoping that at the end of the school year, when the dealers take those they've loaned out back, to find one I can then swing. The would make stockpiling easier and permits exploiting loss leaders. As I do with fish. I'm also glad to know that chicken can substitute.

If you see the National Enquirer's Ray story, don't bother sending me a copy. If you want one I can provide it. It is their typical insanity and can be hurtful. Without knowing of it Lesar had tp phone me three times Friday on what the opposition is up to. Each success means more work and a tougher fight because opposition then gets stronger. I have an unread letter from Jerry today and I'll have to clobber him on this all over again for silencing them is the only hope of being able to even hope.

Many thanks to you both. Best,

P.S. I was not just picking another fight with the ACLU, as I hope to make comprehensible in a planned letter to Lesar.